

### **REMARKS**

As an initial matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledgment of the claim to priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document, as well as acknowledgment that the Drawings are acceptable, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action.

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is amended and new claims 13-21 are added by the present amendment.

#### **Rejection Under 35 USC § 103**

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over FIGS. 1-5 and pages 2-5 of the present application (herein "Related Art") and US Patent Number 4,313,044 to Staats. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "a door filter including a filter plate adhered to one side of the door frame, a choke portion substantially perpendicular to the filter plate at an edge of the filter plate, a first slot formed in a width direction of the choke portion, and a second slot formed in a length direction of the choke portion," in which "the first and second slots are mutually perpendicular," support for which is found in the originally-filed specification at least in FIGS. 6-9 and paragraph 48 at page 10.

In a non-limiting example, FIG. 9 shows a choke portion 220 at an edge of a filter plate 210, and which is perpendicular to the filter plate 210. On the choke portion 220 are formed first and second slots, 221 and 222, which are formed in a width direction and length direction of the choke portion, respectively. The first

and second slots are perpendicular to each other (see the specification at page 10, paragraph 48).

As an advantage, although microwaves having various angles of incidence may reach the door assembly, the optimum microwave-shielding frequency remains constant and a uniform microwave-shielding efficiency may be achieved (see the specification at paragraph 54 to paragraph 55, pages 11 and 12).

However, as acknowledged in item 3 at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, the Related Art does not show “a second slot formed in a length direction of the choke point.”

In further contrast, Staats in FIG. 3 only shows slots 27 formed of a segment 42 having a width at an endpoint 43 greater than a width at a beginning of the segment 42, such that “their width(s) vary as a function of the depth of the slots.”

Accordingly, the Related Art and Staats do not teach or suggest first and second slots which “are mutually perpendicular,” as recited in amended independent claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted amended independent claim 1 and each of the claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over the Related Art and Staats.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted the Related Art teaches away from Staats. Paragraph 9 at page 4 of the present application recites “the plurality of linear slots 35b are provided at fixed intervals in a length direction of the choke portion 35a,” in order to prevent microwaves from leaking. In contrast, Staats in FIG. 3 shows several slots 27 which are positioned at various angles around each corner. Accordingly, because the Related Art calls for regular spacing while Staats only shows spacing at varying angles, it is respectfully submitted the Related Art and Staats cannot be combined in the manner suggested in the outstanding Office Action.

Also, claims 2-12 depending from claim 1 are believed to further patentably distinguish over the cited references. For example, dependent claim 2 recites “the choke portion is provided at a predetermined interval from the door frame,” which is not disclosed by the Related Art or Staats.

### **New Claims**

In addition, new claim 13-21 are added to set forth the invention in a varying scope. New independent claim 13 includes similar features to amended independent claim 1, and further recites, *inter alia*, “a first oblong slot within the choke portion, extending substantially perpendicularly to the filter plate from the edge of the microwave filter plate to an endpoint within the choke portion,” and “a second oblong slot within the choke portion, extending perpendicularly to the first oblong slot and bisecting the first oblong slot,” support for which is found in the specification at least in FIGS. 7-9 and paragraph 50 at page 10.

In a non-limiting example, FIGS. 8 show a first slot 221 having an oblong shape and which is bisected by a second slot 222 having an oblong shape. Further, the first slot 221 is perpendicular to the filter plate, and the second slot 222 is perpendicular to the first slot 221.

In contrast, Staats in FIG. 3 only shows slots 27 which have segments 42 having a wider segment 43 at one end of the segment 42. Assuming *arguendo* the wider segments 43 of Staats correspond to the “second oblong slot” recited in new claim 13, the wider segments 43 of Staats do not bisect the segments 42. Therefore, Staats does not teach or suggest “a second oblong slot ... bisecting the first oblong slot,” as recited in new claim 13.

Moreover, as acknowledged in item 3 at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, the Related Art also does not show “the use of a second slot formed in a length direction of the choke portion.”

Also, new claims 14-21 recite features similar to pending claims 2-7, 11 and 12, respectively, and depend (either directly or indirectly) on new claim 13. New claims 14-21 are believed to be patentable at least for similar reasons as discussed regarding new claim 13.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted new claims 13-21 thus further patentably distinguish over the Related Art and Staats, in addition to the reasons discussed above regarding amended independent claim 1.

### **Amendments to the Specification**

The Specification is amended only to correct minor informalities and to better conform to standard patent practice. It is believed no new matter is added.

### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present amendment is proper and that none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, anticipate or render obvious the present invention as recited in each of the pending claims. The cited references have been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features have been identified.

Accordingly, consideration of the present amendment, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action, and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are respectfully requested and believed to be appropriate.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based on prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition in allowance and believe they have now done so.

If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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